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12 DECEMBER 1984

POSSIBLE TESTING OF NEW ARMORED PLATFORMS FOR SATELLITE
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS
 KRASNOYARSK ELECTRONICS TEST FACILITY, USSR (SWN)

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: THE PRESENCE OF MODIFIED ARMORED VEHICLES AT THIS FACILITY INDICATES THAT THE SOVIETS ARE POSSIBLY DEVELOPING NEW PLATFORMS FOR SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS. (SWN)

2. REMARKS: TWO MODIFIED BTR-70 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS (APC) AND ONE MODIFIED BMD AIRBORNE AMPHIBIOUS COMBAT VEHICLE (AACV) WERE AT KRASNOYARSK ELECTRONICS TEST FACILITY ON [REDACTED] 25X1
 [REDACTED] THE CANVAS-COVERED STANDARD BMD ARRIVED AT THE TEST 25X1
 FACILITY BY [REDACTED] THE TWO CANVAS-COVERED BTR-70 WERE FIRST 25X1
 OBSERVED PARKED ADJACENT TO THE BMD ON [REDACTED] THE TWO BTR-70 25X1
 HAD ALREADY BEEN MODIFIED AND HAVE WHAT APPEARED TO BE A
 CIRCULAR OBJECT APPROXIMATELY TWO METERS IN DIAMETER MOUNTED IN
 PLACE OF THE TURRET. THE BMD WAS MODIFIED BETWEEN [REDACTED] 25X1
 [REDACTED] AND NOW APPEARS TO HAVE A CIRCULAR OBJECT 25X1
 APPROXIMATELY TWO METERS IN DIAMETER MOUNTED IN PLACE OF ITS
 TURRET. THE DIMENSIONS OF THE UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS ON ALL THREE
 VEHICLES ARE LARGER THAN THE STANDARD TURRETS [REDACTED] 25X1
 METERS FOR THE BTR-70 AND BMD RESPECTIVELY), AND ARE COMPARABLE
 TO THE SATELLITE DISHES FOUND ON THE WOOD BINE AND KR-EL-01.
 THE VEHICLES, HOWEVER, HAVE NOT BEEN SEEN WITHOUT CANVAS. (SWN)

THIS TEST FACILITY SUPPORTS KRASNOYARSK RADIO PLANT

[REDACTED] AND KRASNOYARSK TELEVISION PLANT 25X1

THE RADIO PLANT HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE
 DEVELOPMENT OF ALL KNOWN SOVIET MOBILE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS
 SYSTEMS INCLUDING PARK DRIVE, MODIFIED PARK DRIVE, WOOD BINE,
 AND THE KR-EL-01. THE TELEVISION PLANT HAS PRODUCED WOOD BINE
 SINCE 1982. (SWN)

ANALYST'S COMMENTS -- THE EVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT OF MOBILE
 SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS IS A LOGICAL PROGRESSION FROM
 THE TRAILER-MOUNTED PARK DRIVE, THE TRUCK-MOUNTED WOOD BINE AND
 KR-EL-01, TO AN APC-/AACV-MOUNTED SYSTEM. THE INCREASED
 MOBILITY AND SURVIVABILITY OF AN ARMORED VEHICLE-MOUNTED
 SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM WOULD MOST LIKELY COMPLEMENT
 PARK DRIVE AND WOOD BINE, RATHER THAN REPLACE THEM. (SWN)

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SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS ON AN ARMORED PLATFORM WOULD ENHANCE THE COMMAND AND CONTROL AT THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL. FRONT AND ARMY-LEVEL FORWARD COMMAND POSTS, COMPOSED PRIMARILY OF WHEELED ARMORED VEHICLES, CURRENTLY LACK THE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY PRESENT AT THE MAIN AND RESERVE COMMAND POSTS. DEVELOPMENT OF A BMD VERSION COULD BE FOR THE USE OF AIRBORNE FORCES AS WELL AS OTHER FORCES. (SWN)

3. COORDINATES 56-04-10N 092-52-42E (S)

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